

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 13125 091322Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 EURE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00
INR-07 INRE-00 CIAE-00 SP-02 SYE-00 /042 W
-----029192 091329Z /47
O 091305Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1930

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 13125

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PDIP, UR
SUBJECT: HELICOPTER FLIGHTS OVER EMBASSY

REF: MOSCOW 12862

1. DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE NOTED REPORT THAT SOVIET HELICOPTER
MADE SEVERAL CLOSE PASSES (AS CLOSE AS 20 METERS) OVER
EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 5.

2. ANOTHER HELICOPTER FLEW OVER AT GREATER DISTANCE ON
SEPTEMBER 8, AND TODAY WE HAVE EXPERIENCED ONCE AGAIN A
SERIES OF CLOSE PASSES.

3. THE OBVIOUS PURPOSE OF THESE FLIGHTS IS TO OBSERVE WORK
BY SEABEES ON EMBASSY ROOF. HELICOPTER FLIGHTS OVER
CENTRAL MOSCOW ARE NORMALLY PROHIBITED AND PERSONNEL AT
POST CANNOT RECALL OBSERVING HELO IN THIS PART OF CITY
BEFORE THESE FLIGHTS OVER EMBASSY BEGAN.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE URGENT ADVICE AS TO WHETHER FORMAL
PROTEST OF THESE FLIGHTS IS IN ORDER. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN
THAT CASE CAN BE MADE THAT FLIGHTS DIRECTLY OVER EMBASSY
VIOLATE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY AND WOULD APPRECIATE ADVISE ON
THIS POINT. IF HELICOPTER FLY OVER SOVIET EMBASSY IN
WASHINGTON, WE WOULD PRESUMABLY NOT WISH TO PROTEST
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UNLESS FLIGHTS COME DANGEROUSLY NEAR.

5. IF WE DO NOT PROTEST THIS PRACTICE, WE ASSUME THAT IT WILL
BE CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE ROOF RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD AND
PERHAPS INTENSIFIED. THOUGH THE SOVIETS ARE
PRESENTLY ABLE TO SEE LITTLE FROM A HELICOPTER WHICH THEY
ARE UNABLE TO OBSERVER (AT SOMEWHAT GREATER DISTANCE) FROM

NEARBY BUILDINGS, THE FLIGHTS - PARTICULARLY IF FREQUENT AND
CLOSE - CONSTITUTE AT MINIMUM A FORM OF HARRASSMENT.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HELICOPTERS, FLIGHT CLEARANCES, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 9c4b9849-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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TAGS: ASEC, PDIP, UR, US
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